

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (original): A cover for a substrate including:
a body defining a cavity, for positioning over the substrate to form a reaction chamber; and

a projection extending from the body to define a fluid reservoir, when the cover is fitted to the substrate, the fluid reservoir being in fluid communication with the cavity.

Claim 2. (original): A cover, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity extends the full width of a sample holding region of the substrate.

Claim 3. (currently amended): The cover as claimed in one of ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1 wherein a protrusion extends from the projection, to assist in wicking fluid into the reservoir.

Claim 4. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 3, wherein the reservoir is defined by a first section, angled at least at substantially 60° relative to the cavity, and a second section, positioned between the cavity and the first section, and orientated at a reduced angle relative to the cavity, as compared to the first section.

Claim 5. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 4, wherein the second section is angled at least at substantially 15°.

Claim 6. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in any one of ~~claims 1 to 5~~claim 1 wherein the cover is made from a polymer material.

Claim 7. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in any one of ~~claims 1 to 6~~claim 1 wherein the cavity includes a coating of reduced surface roughness than the polymer material.

Claim 8. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 7 wherein the cavity includes a coating with reduced porosity.

Claim 9. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~ wherein the cavity has one or more coatings.

Claim 10. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 9 wherein a first coating is a material having similar properties to the material of the slide.

Claim 11. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 10 wherein the first coating is silicon dioxide.

Claim 12. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 11 wherein a second coating is placed intermediate a first coating to provide improved contact properties between the cover and first coating.

Claim 13. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of the preceeding claims~~claim 1 wherein the width of the cavity of the cover is the no larger than the width of a microscope slide.

Claim 14. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~claim 1, wherein the cavity is substantially planar.

Claim 15. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~claim 1, further including a locator for controlling and locating the cover, the locator being arranged at an end of the cover opposite the projection.

Claim 16. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, further including a second reservoir, at an opposite end of the cover.

Claim 17. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of the preceeding claims~~claim 1, wherein wall portions are located at the edge of the cover, surrounding the cavity on two or more sides.

Claim 18. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 17, wherein the reservoir is defined between the projection, and legs located on either side of the cover.

Claim 19. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 18, wherein legs extend along the sides of the cavity to form the wall portions.

Claim 20. (original): A cover according to claim 18 wherein the cover is supported upon the substrate on the wall portions.

Claim 21. (original): A covertile according to claim 15 wherein the cavity extends to an end edge of the cover adjacent the locator.

Claim 22. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 21~~claim 1, wherein the cover has associated wing structures that allow the cover to be engaged and pivoted relative to the substrate so as to open the reaction chamber and allow the slide to be cleared of fluid.

Claim 23. (currently amended): A combination of a substrate and a cover, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 22~~claim 1, wherein the cavity of the cover is arranged to face the substrate so as to form a reaction chamber.

Claim 24. (currently amended): A method of treatment of a sample on a sample holding region of a substrate including locating a cover, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 22~~claim 1, over the substrate, so that the cavity of the cover faces the substrate to form a reaction chamber over the sample holding region, and depositing fluid into the fluid reservoir to allow the fluid to be drawn into the reaction chamber, as required.

Claim 25. (original): A method as claimed in claim 24, further including sliding the cover relative to the substrate to vary a degree of overlap between the cover and the sample

holding region, which results in a corresponding variation in the reaction chamber volume.

Claim 26. (currently amended): A method as claimed in ~~claim 24 or 25~~claim 24, further including sliding the cover relative to the substrate until wing structures associated with the cover are engaged and lifted relative to the substrate to pivot the cover into an open condition, and allow fluid to drain from the reaction chamber.